

Overview

When faced with challenges such as illiteracy, poverty, crime, and a lack of usable open spaces, our nation has always relied on the dedication and action of citizens. That is why President Bush has called on every American to dedicate at least two years over the course of their lives to service to their community, our country, and the world.

Today, the Corporation for National and Community Service continues a long tradition of citizen involvement and supports President Bush's call to service by encouraging students to improve their communities through service. Many schools are discovering the value of service through projects that link education and service. The Corporation for National and Community Service engages 1.5 million students each year who are meeting community needs while improving their academic skills and learning the habits of good citizenship. One initiative that encourages these habits is the Presidential Freedom Scholarship program.

Presidential Freedom Scholarships

The Presidential Freedom Scholarship program is designed to highlight and promote service and citizenship by students and to recognize students for their leadership in those areas. More than 25,000 scholarships have been awarded to students who have strengthened communities by demonstrating outstanding leadership in service.

Through the program, each high school in the country may select up to two students to receive a \$1,000 scholarship in recognition of outstanding leadership in service to their community. The student(s) selected may be either a high school junior(s) or senior(s). With funds appropriated by Congress, the Corporation for National and Community Service provides \$500 for each scholarship, which must be matched with \$500 secured by the participating school from the community.

In addition to the scholarship, students receive a certificate from President George W. Bush, a letter of recognition, and a President's Student Service Award gold pin.

Eligibility

As an educator, you are encouraged to recognize students who truly demonstrate outstanding leadership in service, rather than those who merely meet the minimum requirement of 100 hours of service to the community. Students may receive this scholarship only once.

In addition, each student must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Be a high school junior or senior during the 2002-2003 academic year;
- Have contributed at least 100 hours of service within the 12 months prior to applying;
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident;

President Bush has called upon every American to make a lifetime commitment to serve their community and their country. For this year's essay, students are asked to identify a public figure from history and discuss how that person has inspired them to service and civic leadership.

Schools are not required to submit each student's essay; however, we ask that principals forward any exemplary student essay with the certification form. There is no minimum or maximum length requirement for the essay. These essays will become public information and may be printed—in part or in full—in publicity materials and on our web site, with the student's name, school, city, and state listed. Students whose essays are submitted by their school must also sign the publicity release on this form.

APPLY ON-LINE!

Instead of using the paper form, take advantage of our simple on-line process and certify your school's scholarship recipients by visiting www.nationalservice.org/scholarships

Service that DOES qualify

- Service through school- or communitybased service-learning projects
- Service with community organizations that can be verified by those organizations
- Service with a faith-based organization that is not proselytizing* or religious instruction

Service that DOES NOT qualify

- Paid or stipended service
- X Lobbying
- Religious instruction
- Conducting worship services
- Engaging in any form of proselytizing*
- Efforts directed to serve only a family member
- * Proselytizing generally refers to any attempt to convert somebody to a religious faith or political doctrine.
- Attend a public, private, charter, or parochial school located within one of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, an Indian tribe, a U.S. territory, or a Department of Defense school; and
- Plan to attend an eligible institution of higher education in the U.S. as defined in the Higher Education Act of 1965 as amended, 20 USC 1001(a).

If a student does not meet all of these requirements, he/she is ineligible to receive this scholarship. Please note that no minimum grade point average is required to receive this scholarship.

Types of Service

The Presidential Freedom Scholarship is intended to reward and encourage service activities that have a significant impact in meeting the needs of local communities. See the list above for examples of service that qualify for this scholarship. The school principal must verify that a selected student's service does not include any of the prohibited types of service listed above.

Selection Process

School officials must determine how scholarship recipients are selected. They may engage representatives of the community in this selection process. Once the selections are made, the school must complete a scholarship certification form for each selected student. This form must be completed in full in order to be processed. Every certification form must be signed by the high school principal—without this signature, the scholarship will not be awarded. Eligible students properly selected and certified by their schools will become scholarship recipients, funds permitting.

The high school is the only authorized nominating entity. Non-school entities, such as organizations, businesses, or individuals, may be a part of the process, but they cannot submit a certification form. In addition, students may not apply directly.

(continued after certification forms)

These important instructions continue on the last two pages of this booklet. The next section contains two identical certification forms. Remove these forms—Form A and Form B—from the center section before completing.



Local Matching Funds

For a student to receive \$500 from the Corporation for National and Community Service, their school must first obtain local scholarship funds—matching funds—of at least \$500. The intent of the local matching source is to encourage strong partnerships between schools and communities. Matching funds from the community may come from the school, local businesses, nonprofit organizations, or civic groups. Matching funds for one student may come from multiple sources.

Please note: a student's parent(s) or other family members are not allowed to submit matching funds on the student's behalf. This prohibition also extends to businesses owned or operated by family members. Any certification form indicating matching funds provided by such sources will not be processed and the form will be returned to the school. Asking scholarship recipients to raise their own matching funds is not permitted.

In the past, matching funds for these scholarships have been provided by the high schools, PTAs, booster or alumni clubs, and other school-related groups. In addition, matching funds have been provided by organizations such as the Kiwanis, Rotary, Lions, and local foundations. There are several national sponsors that provide matching funds for scholarship recipients.

Deadline

Certification forms will be accepted until **July 11**, **2003**. If the number of forms received exceeds available funds, awards will be made on a first-come, first-served basis. We strongly encourage you to submit your school's certification forms as early as possible. We will make every attempt to notify schools of their scholarship recipients to allow for public recognition of scholarship recipients at an awards ceremony or graduation. However, we cannot guarantee that notification will take place prior to these events.

Scholarship Disbursement

Each scholarship check of \$500 from the Corporation for National and Community Service will be made payable jointly to the student and the college of his/ her choice and will be mailed directly to the student. Prior to the disbursement of funds, instructions will be provided to the recipient so that enrollment can be confirmed by the student or institution of higher education. High school juniors who are selected as scholarship recipients will receive their scholarships when they enroll in college. The school or local matching organization is responsible for the disbursement of the local matching scholarship.

How to Nominate a Student for a Presidential Freedom Scholarship

There are two (2) certification forms enclosed in this packet. Complete a form for each student being nominated and submit it by July 11, 2003; forms submitted after July 11 will not be processed. All information on the certification form is required. Be sure the form is complete before mailing since incomplete forms will be returned to the school. Do not include letters of recommendation, transcripts, or other documents.

To request notification of receipt of certification form, complete the attached postcard, affix postage, and mail with the certification form. Due to the volume of forms received, we are unable to answer telephone or email inquiries about application status. If you have other questions, please call us toll-free at 1-866-291-7700 or email us at info@studentservicescholarship.org.

Remember: forms may only be submitted by high schools and must be signed by the principal. Mail the certification form to:

Presidential Freedom Scholarships 1150 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 1100 Washington, DC 20036

Privacy Policy

Be assured that:

- The student's name may be used for news or publicity purposes connected with the Presidential Freedom Scholarship program. However, other student information will not be shared with anyone outside of the Corporation for National and Community Service or its designees other than as needed for the sole purpose of disbursing the scholarship. Addresses, phone numbers, social security numbers, and other personal information will not be provided to any third party.
- We do not collect information for commercial marketing.
- The school information and matching funds source information will not be shared with anyone outside of the Corporation for National and Community Service or its designees.
- We will use information on the certification form only to process it and to respond to you directly for clarification if needed. We may also use the information for follow-up mailings related to the Presidential Freedom Scholarship program to schools, colleges, matching scholarships providers, and service sites.

If you have questions about the Presidential Freedom Scholarship program:

- Visit our web site at www.nationalservice.org/ scholarships (see Frequently Asked Questions)
- Call us toll-free at 1-866-291-7700
- Email us at info@studentservicescholarship.org



Volunteer service is a part of the history of our nation. Americans have always demonstrated a spirit of service and of citizenship that includes helping those in need. The USA Freedom Corps builds on this great American spirit.

The USA Freedom Corps works with service agencies in government and the nonprofit sector to encourage and enable Americans to serve others at home and abroad. The USA Freedom Corps is helping Americans of all ages and every background make a commitment to serving others for at least two years over their lifetimes. By encouraging students to develop habits of service, educators can help the USA Freedom Corps to engage young people in service to their communities, our country, and the world.

APPLY ON-LINE!

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SIMPLE PROCESS

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EASY TO USE



2003 Scholarship Certification Form A

Remove these forms—Form A and Form B—from the center section before completing. Type or print clearly and legibly using black or blue ink. Certification forms may be submitted only by high schools and must be certified/ signed by the principal. Forms will be accepted until July 11, 2003. We strongly encourage you to submit your school's certification forms as early as possible and to publicly recognize your scholarship recipients at an awards ceremony in the spring. Forms submitted after July 11, 2003 and forms with missing or illegible information will not be processed and will be returned to the school.

Student Information

Please be sure this section is complete and legible. We will use the information listed in this section for mailing of notification materials and for any additional contacts with the student. If information is missing or illegible, the form will not be processed.

First Name:	MI: Last Name:	Suffi	X: (Include Jr., III)
Permanent Mailing Address:			
City:	State:	Zip:	
Email:			
Home Phone: ()	Alternate Ph	one: ()	
Birthdate: / /	Social Security Number:		le
For academic year 2002-200	\square 3, student is a: \square Junior \square Se	nior	
FOR SENIORS ONLY Full name of college/university	ty that student has been accepted t	o or plans to attend:	
	State:		
Intended Enrollment Date:	(Month) ((ear)	

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SIMPLE PROCESS • EASY TO USE



STUDENT SERVICE INFORMATION

Please classify the service performed by the student by checking all boxes that apply.

Health □ Drug/Alcohol Prevention □ Teen Pregnancy Prevention □ Smoking Prevention □ Hospital/Clinic Support □ Public Health Activities □ Other Health Education Other Human Needs	Education □ Literacy □ Tutoring, Mentoring, Coaching/Homework Help □ Supporting Out of School Activities □ Big Brother/Big Sister □ ESL Tutoring	Environment □ Community Improvement/ Cleanup □ Community Gardens □ Parks and Trails □ Water Testing/Cleanup □ Endangered Species □ Lead Avoidance	Public Safety ☐ Homeland Security ☐ Disaster Relief ☐ Disaster Preparedness ☐ Violence Prevention ☐ Conflict Resolution/ Mediation ☐ Community Policing ☐ Bike Safety
☐ Elderly Assistance ☐ Hunger/Homelessness	□ Promoting Tolerance/Diversity□ Youth Serving Youth		☐ Auto Safety
☐ Other			
Approximate Number of H (The past 12 months is defined as Were the activities part of This student served all or a Name of organization (list one only)	the period 12 months prior to the	date this form is completed.)	
	certification forms for up to	o two (2) student in any awards ternate contact at the school o	•
Full Name of High School:			
Contact Name:			
Email address:	Pho	ne number: ()	
School Address:			
City:	State:	Zip:	





MATCHING FUNDS INFORMATION

Full Name of Organization:

In order for a student to receive the Presidential Freedom Scholarship, his or her school must obtain matching funds of at least \$500 from a local community organization or organizations. If several organizations or individuals are contributing the \$500 or more in matching funds, please provide the contact information for one of the organizations. If necessary, use the extra line to list additional organizations providing matching funds. The school and the organization are responsible for determining the process for disbursing these funds to the student. Forms received without this information will be considered incomplete, will not be processed, and will be returned to the school.

Contact Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Email address:		
Phone number: ()	Amount: \$	S
Additional Organizations:		
Publicity Release (OPTI	ONAL)	
I am selected to receive a Presid	ential Freedom Scholarship, the Corp	oration for National and Community Servineses of news, publicity, and publications.
Student Signature:		



CERTIFICATION

This section must be completed by the school principal or head of school. No other staff member or any other person may sign in the principal's place.

I verify that the student listed on this form completed at least 100 hours of service to the community and displays outstanding leadership in service. I certify that the information on this form is accurate, that no more than two students from this high school are being certified to receive this scholarship, and that the process by which the student was selected to receive a Presidential Freedom Scholarship did not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, sex, age, political affiliation, or religion.

Principal's Signature:			
Principal's Full Name (Print):	Date:	/	/
Date of your school's awards or graduation ceremony:	//03		
NEXT STEP			
Mail the completed certification forms (without letters of recomm	nendation or 1	ranscript	s) to:
Presidential Freedom Sch	olarships		
1150 Connecticut Avenue, NV	V, Suite 1100		
Washington, DC 200	36		
(866) 291-7700 (toll-free) • (202)	742-5390 (lo	cal)	

CERTIFICATION FORM CHECKLIST HAVE YOU... ☐ Made a copy of each certification form for your ☐ Secured a local matching scholarship of at least \$500 for each student? records? ☐ Submitted no more than two (2) certification ☐ Enclosed the postcard (postage affixed) to enable forms for students who have not previously us to confirm receipt of the certification form? received this scholarship in the past? ***** ☐ Filled out the certification form completely If you have any other questions, visit and legibly? (Note: If a certification form is www.nationalservice.org/scholarships and review the incomplete or illegible, the certification form Frequently Asked Questions section. will be returned to you.)







2003 Scholarship Certification Form B

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First Name:	_ MI: Last Name:	Suffix:	(Include Jr., III)
Permanent Mailing Address:			
City:	State:	Zip:	
Email:			
Home Phone: ()	Alternate Ph	none: ()	
Birthdate: / / Soc	cial Security Number:	Male (Optional (Optional)	
For academic year 2002-2003, studer	nt is a: 🔲 Junior 🔲 Se	enior	
FOR SENIORS ONLY Full name of college/university that so	tudent has been accepted t	to or plans to attend:	
City:	State:	Zip:	
Intended Enrollment Date: (Month)	(Year)	

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SIMPLE PROCESS • EASY TO USE



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Phone number: ()	Amount: \$	S
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Principal's Signature:			
Principal's Full Name (Print):	Date:	/	/
Date of your school's awards or graduation ceremony:	//03		
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Presidential Freedom Scho	olarships		
1150 Connecticut Avenue, NW,	Suite I I 00		
Washington, DC 2003	6		
(866) 291-7700 (toll-free) • (202)	742-5390 (loc	al)	

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☐ Made a copy of each certification form for your records?	☐ Secured a local matching scholarship of at least \$500 for each student?	
☐ Submitted no more than two (2) certification forms for students who have not previously received this scholarship in the past?	☐ Enclosed the postcard (postage affixed) to enable us to confirm receipt of the certification form?	
☐ Filled out the certification form completely and legibly? (Note: If a certification form is incomplete or illegible, the certification form will be returned to you.)	If you have any other questions, visit www.nationalservice.org/scholarships and review the Frequently Asked Questions section.	

